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Approach

ABSTRACT

It is estimated that 1,868,000 people are certainly eligible for the services of the Library of Congress Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Between 5,781,500 and 11,384,500 are also possibly eligible. Handicapping conditions which are certainly eligible are severe visual impairment, absence of one or both arms or hands, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, quadriplegia, and hemiplegia. Conditions which are possibly eligible are arthritis, Huntington's disease, learning disabilities, mental retardation, multiple sclerosis, myasthena gravis, Parkinson's disease, spina bifida, spinal cord injury, tumors of the brain and nervous system, and mild forms of cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, paraplegia. Appended to the report are detailed reports of the handicapped population which served as the basis of the summarized estimates. (JY)



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

DIVISION FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

An Estimate of the Number of Persons with Visual and Physical Handicaps Eligible for DBPH Services

US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

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Compiled by

Dorothy Pollet Reference and Information Section

September 1973

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SUMMARY

Certain Eligibility

Severe visual impairment	1,306,000
Absence of one or both arms or hands	81,000
Cerebral palsy (paralyzed)	181,000
Muscular dystrophy (completely disabled)	50,000
Quadriplegia	51,000
Homiplegia	199,000
	1.868.000

Possible Eligibility

Arthritis or rheumatism	857,000
Cerebral palsy (excluding those paralyzed)	569,000
Huntington's disease	14,000
Learning disabilities	1,542,000-2,570,000
Mental retardation	1,525,000-6,100,000
Multiple sclerosis and related diseases	500,000
Muscular dystrophy (excluding those completely disabled)	150,000
Myasthenia gravis	30,000
Paraplegia	102,000
Parkinson's disease	200,000
Spina bifida	27,500
Spinal cord injury	125,000
Tumors of the brain and nervous system	140,000
	5,781,500-11,384,500

Age by Eligibility

- 47.2% of the legally blind are 65 and over. (NSPB, 1962)
- 69.6% of the severely visually impaired are 65 and over. (NCHS, 1971)
- 49.7% of paralyzed cerebral palsy victims are under 17. (NCHS, 1971)
- About 2/3 of known muscular dystrophy victims are between the ages of 3 and 13. (MDA)
- All figures quoted for the learning disabled are for children of elementary and secondary school age.
- 49.7% of hemiplegia victims are 65 and over. (NCHS, 1971)



SEVERE VISUAL IMPAIRMENT 1/ - 1,306,000

(1971, National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Public Health Service)

Data derived from household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutionalized population.

See Appendix 3 for breakdown by age.

See Appendix 4 for breakdown of 1963-65 figure (1,227,000) by age, sex, color, geographic region, income, and limitation of activity.

Legal Blindness 2/ - 475,200 [Included in above] (1972 estimate, National Society for the Prevention of Blindness)

Data derived from national surveys.

See Appendix 1 for State breakdown.

See Appendix 2 for age breakdown on 1960 and 1962 estimates.

PHYSICAL HANDICAPS

Absence of one or both arms or hands, July 1963-June 1965 - 81,000

(National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Public Health Service.) Based on data collected in household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutionalized population for the National Health Survey.

Cerebral Palsy - 750,000

(Current estimate of the United Cerebral Palsy Association.) Associated handicaps include visual disorders, affecting about 35% of those with CP, and mental retardation, affecting 50-75% to some degree. (United Cerebral Palsy Association)

181,000 victims of CP are completely or partially paralyzed. (1971, National Center for Health Statistics. Data from the National Health Survey.)

Muscular Dystrophy - 200,000

Of these, an estimated 50,000 are completely disabled. (National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, current estimate.)

Nearly 2/3 of known victims in the U.S. are between the ages of 3 and 13. Most of these will die before adulttool. (Muscular Dystrophy Associations of America, 1972)

Quadriplegia - 51,000

Paralysis - (National Center for Health Statistics, 1971. Data based on the National Health Survey.)

- 1/ Inability to read newsprint, even with corrective lenses.
- 2/ Central visual acuity does not exceed 20/200 in the better eye with correcting lenses, or visual field is less than 20 degrees.



Hemiplegia - 199,000

Paralysis - (National Center for Health Statistics, 1971. Data based on the National Health Survey.)

Arthritis - Number of persons unable to carry on their major activity because of arthritis or rheumatism, 1969-70 - 857,000

(National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Public Health Service. Data from the National Health Survey.)

800,000 suffer from hand or foot disabilities associated with arthritis. (Arthritis Foundation; current data derived from Social Security records.)

Cerebral Palsy - (See page 2)

Huntington's Disease - 14,000

(Current estimate, National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, U.S. National Institute of Health.)

Learning Disabilities - 3-5% of the school population is neurologically impaired. [About 1,542,000-2,570,000 children] (Current estimate, Association for Children with Learning Disabilities.)

Number of pupils with specific learning disabilities 1/ in local public schools, 1970: 1,160,000 or 2.6% of the total. (Data derived from a survey by the National Center for Educational Statistics, U.S. Office of Education.)

A lower estimate from the same study is 648,000 or 1.4% of the total. This is based on principals' reports of the number of pupils receiving designated forms of specialized instruction.

Mental Retardation - There are 6.1 million people or 3% of the population, who should be identified as mentally retarded before they are 15 years old. (Current estimate, National Association for Retarded Children.)

See Appendix 6 for breakdown by age and degree of retardation.

See Appendix 7 for developmental capabilities of the various degrees of retardation.

Mental retardation is considered a physical handicap under certain Federal legislation; e.g., the Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Act of 1970. However, the President's Committee on Mental Retardation estimates that only about 25% of all mental retardation can be attributed to a biomedical factor. (Appendix 8)

1/ See definition: Appendix 5.



"In a study of 2,000 mentally retarded patients, about 40 percent of those studied had no physical error which could be discovered. In those with biological factors, mongolism accounted for 16.7 percent; maldevelopment of the brain and spinal cord, 45 percent; a destructive process during the period at or soon after birth, 16.7 percent; and inborn errors of metabolism, 21.6 percent."1/

One physically-based cause of mental retardation, Down's Syndrome, occurs in about 1 of every 700 births. 2/ (National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, 1971.) [At this rate, about 4,651 mongoloid children were born in 1972.] The majority of these achieve between one-quarter to one-half of normal intelligence. (National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, 1971.) Other known biological factors in retardation include hydrocephalus, kernicterus, and inborn metabolic errors.

Multiple Sclerosis and related denyelinating diseases - 500,000 (Current estimate, National Multiple Sclerosis Society.)

Seventy percent are first diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 40. About 15% are diagnosed between the ages of 15 and 20, and another 15% between the ages of 40 and 50. However, the chronic, progressive nature of MS makes it a significant problem in older age groups as well. (National Multiple Sclerosis Society)

Muscular Dystrophy - (See page 2)

Myasthenia Gravis - 30,000

(Current estimate, National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke.)

Paraplegia - 102,000

Paralysis - (National Center for Health Statistics, 1971. Data based on the National Health Survey.)

Parkinson's Disease - 200,000

(Current estimate, National Institute of Meurological Diseases and Stroke.)

Spina Bifida - 27,500

(Current estimate, National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke.)

Spinal Cord Injury 3/ - 125.000

(Current estimate, National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke.)

- 1/ U.S. National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke. Mental Retardation, Its Biological Factors, 1972. Page 9
- 2/ The National Association for Retarded Children estimates 1 out of every 600 births.
- 3/ This category will overlap with "Paralysis" to an unknown extent.



Tumors of the brain and other parts of the nervous system - 140,00 (Current estimate, National Institute of Neurological iseases and Stroke.)

GENERAL ESTIMATES OF HANDICAPPED POPULATIONS

There are over 6-1/2 million severely disabled 1/ personaged 18-64 in the U.S. More than 6 million of these are institutionalized, and about 1/2 million are in long-ter medical care institutions and schools or homes for the 'care capped. (Social Security Surveys of the Disabled, 1965)

See Appendix 9 for breakdown by age, sex, race, ragnostic condition, and region.

There were 815,100 residents of all ages in revsing and personal care homes in 1969. (National Center for Health Statistics; based on data collected in a national survey of institutional establishments.) See Appendix 10 for breakdown by age, sex, and color.

The average daily census 2/ of all AHA registered hospitals in the U.S., 1972, was 1,209,000. (American Espital Association. The 1973 AHA Guide to the Health Care Field.)



^{1/} Unable to work altogether or unable to work regularly.

^{2/} Average number of in-patients receiving care each day during a 12-month period; does not include newborn.

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APPEIDIXES



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TABLE 1. Estimated Prevalence and New Cases of Blindness in the United States, by State, July 1, 1972

}		Factors underlying estimates	ying estimates			Preva	Prevalance	Raj.	"lew cases
1	Percent of	Percent of population	Infant deat	Infant death rate, av. b	Estimated popula-	Estimated		Estimated	
Geographic division	Age 65&	Non-	1958-	1956	11/172 °C	100,000 Popula-	Estimated	rate per 100,000 popula-	Estimated
and state	Over	white	1963	N61	(in 000's)	tion	numbere	tiond	numbere
United States (including Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands)	9.8	12.4	26.2	21.8	211,116	225.1	475,200	21.0	44,350
United States New England	6.6	12.3	25.9	21.7	208,234	224.7	467,800	21.0	43,800
Maine	9:11	0.7	25.7	20.4	1.029	223.1	2 300	20.0	500
New Hampshire	10.6	9.0	23.4	19.5	771	203.5	009	19.4	S 5
Vermont	10.7	9.0	24.0	20.5	462	206.2	056	19.7	2 2
Massaciusetts	11.2	3.7	22.0	19.1	5.787	213.4	12.350	20.5	1 200
Rhode Island	1:0	3.4	23.3	20.1	896	213.8	2.100	20.5	200
Connecticut Middle Astronia	9.5	6.5	22.4	18.9	3,082	198.5	6,100	88.8	99
	,	4	,						
New York	808	13.2	24.3	21.3	18,366	234.1	43,000.	22.3	4.100
New Jersey	7.6	7.	19.4	20.8	7,367	202.4	14,900	20.4	0.35.1
Pennsylvania	10.8	9.0	24.5	21.5	11,926	226.2	27,000	21.6	2,550
East North Central									
Ohio	9.4	9.4	24.1	20.0	10,783	208.0	22,450	19.4	2,100
Indiana	9.5	7.2	23.8	21.3	5,291	203.9	10.800	9.61	1 050
Illinois	8.6 8.	13.6	24.6	23.2	11,251	222.8	25,050	21.6	2.450
Michigan	8.5	11.7	24.2	21.3	9,082	201.5	18,300	19.1	1.750
Wisconsin	10.7	3.6	22.5	18.6	4,520	208.2	9,400	19.7	006
West North Central					<u>.</u>				
Minnesota	10.7	œ. œ.	21.7	18.1	3,896	202.4	7,900	19.3	750
lowa	,12.4	1.5	21.3	19.0	2,883	222.2	6.400	21.7	65
Missouri	12.0	10.7	25.1	21.4	4,753	246.5	11,700	23.4	1.100
North Dakota	10.7	3.0	23.9	18.0	632	211.1	051	10.5	202
South Dakota	12.1	5.3	25.6	23.4	679	238.4	009	22.6	150
Ncbraska	12.4	3.4	22.7	17.3	1,525	239.1	3.500	21.5	350
Kansas	8.1	r,	22.4	19.3	2.258	225.8	2 100	7 (2	Ş
South Atlantic)	<u> </u>		3	•	
Delaware	8.0	14.9	24.9	21.0	\$65	203.5	1.150	6.81	90
Maryland	7.6		27.4	21.3	4.0%	212.9	8.650	19.1	750
District of Columbia	9.4	72.3	36.4	27.7	748	370.1	2.750	32.3	250
Virginia	7.9	161	29.8	23.2	4.764	224.6	10,700	20.1	950
•				!		•		•	

West Virginia	13.1	7	7 7 7		,				
North Carolina	œ		† · · · ·	1.92	1.781	. 225.6	4,000	21.9	907
South Carolina		20.5	51.0	26.2	5,214	569.6	12.550	21.0	2
, coronia	•	70.7	33.4	26.2	2 565	1636	000.		1,130
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	9	76.1	31.2	24 %	066	224.1	0010	22.3	S(3)
Florida	14.6	8 ¥	30.5		4,740	744.0	1.500	219	1.050
East South Central			7.06.	23.8	7,239	. 304.3	22,100	28.3	20%
Kentucky	* 61				٠			!	
in the state of th	7.0	4.	8.72	22.6	3.299	224.5	7 660		,
3355	æ. 6.	1.91	29.7	214	4021	000	U.C.,	21.3	700
Alabama	9.5	26.4	22.3			1.707	00%,6	22.1	6/16
Mississippi	001	13.3	0.00	7.07	5,510	267.0	9,4:30	24.4	5
West South Central	2	7.76	39.4	33.7	2,263	316.9	7,200	28.9	95.4
Arkansas	17.7	Š	•						2
Ottestana	1	18.0	27.3	22.4	1.978	273.9	COP \$	356	•
	×.	30.5	\$2.2	26.0	2 7 20		0.14.0	0.07	S. C.
Uklinoma	11.7	10.9	24.0		03,1,0	7.007	9,700	23.4	850
cxas	0		6.5	\$0.5	2,634	242.7	6,470	22.9	600
Mountain	0.0	7.61	28.4	22.6	11.649	221.5	25.800		0/20
					•		2000	7.07	2,350
Montana	9.9	4.5	25.3	21.5	C	0 100			
Idaho	9.5	0	33.3		, 13 13 13	8./02	1.500	19.7	150
Wyomirg	· •	· ·	2.63	18.0	756	191.3	1,450	17.9	2
Colorado		0.7	0.87	22.4	345	202.3	27.5	701	2.
. Company	n o	₽	27.6	21.7	2 357	104 1		0.0	7
OSING MACHEO		6.6	32.6	1 7%		7.00	0.00	67.	2
Arizona	7.6	9 6	3.1.4	23.1	COD':	201.2	2,150	17.5	200
Utah	7.7	3.6		0.77	1,945	225.1	4,400	8 61	707
Nevada .	: ~	0.0	£0.3	16.9	1,126	156.7	1.750	147	\$ \$.
Pacific	2	8.3	30.4	22.9	527	184.1	000		00.
Washineton	•	,							2:
Oregon	4.4	4.6	23.8	19.6	3,443	197.4	6 900	•	•
	£0.8	7.00 7.00	23.3	38.8	3 103		Orașo Contractoria	16.5	6 50
California	0.6	0 11	21.4	9 9	7017	7.017	4.600	19.8	450
Alaska	2.3	2.5	30.5	6.9	Z 0,468	204.4	41,850	18.9	3.850
Hawaii	2	7.7	C. 4	24.5	325	182.3	2009	13.6	200
Territories	ì	>.	77.2	8 .3	809	139.3	55.	3 6	> 5
Piecto Pico	•	į				•	0,	6.7	5
Viscon Islanda	6.5	20.3	45.5	29.7	2.806	1 254	7 165		
VII KIN ISIANDS	30. 30.	86. 8. 8.	38.6	28.1) } }	234.2	6014	20.4	550
			i	•	9/	324.1	250	26.9	V S

For Hawnii the nonwhite percent includes Negro only. Nonwhite percent for Puerto Rico is from the 1950 census of population since these data were not recorded in the 1970 Census of Population, General Population Characteristics, Final Report, Bureau of the Census, Series PC(1)-B1, B53, .-d B55.

Drates per 1,000 live births, computed from number of infant deaths and live births for the years 1958-1962 and 1966-1970, inclusive. Data for 1958 to 1968 from Statistical Abstract of the United States, Bureau of the Census, for the years 1958-1962 and 1966-1968. Data for 1959 and 1970 from Monthly Vital Statistics Report, National Center for Health Statistics, 19: 13 (Sept. 1971) and 20: 13 (Aug. 1972).

Provisional estimate of the total resident population, each state, from Current Population Reports, Population Estimates. Bureau of the Census, Series P-25, No. 488, September 1972. The figures include persons in the Armed Forces stationed in each state, but exclude Armed Forces overseas. Estimates for Puerto Rico and U. S. Virgin Islands are NSPB statistics department projections based on 1970 census data. See text for method of estimation.

The estimated numbers are rounded to the nearest 50.

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VII. AGE DISTRIBUTION OF LEGALLY BLIND PERSONS

Since actual data on the age of blind persons are not available an attempt has been made to develop crude estimates of the total number and the new cases by age group for the nation as a whole. The data available are insufficient for computing state estimates.

Table 8 presents the estimated number of total cases for 1960 and 1962 according to broad age groups with rates per 100,000 population and per cents of the total in each age group. Table 9 gives the same data for new cases.*

Table 8 Estimated Prevalence of Legal Blindness by Age Group, With Rates and Per Cents, U.S., 1960 and 1962

	1960			1050	
No.*	Rate**	9/	39 4		
		/0	NO. T	Rate**	%
20 200	 -				
•	55.1	9.9	38,860	54 1	9.8
2,780	13.7	0.7			
35,420			-	- -	0.7
	12.7	3.4	36,230	71.4	9.1
£2 000	• • • • •				
21,800	112.2	13.5	54,040	112 7	12 =
				****	13.5
113,470	237.0	20 5	117 000		
·		23.5	111,890	237.5	29.5
181 450	1 005 6				
		47.1	188,510	1.098.1	47.2
	545.0	8.9			
147,120	1.434.1				8.9
		50.2	152,840	1,437.0	38.3
385 000	212.4				
202,000	213.9	100.0	399,300	214.0	100.0
	No.* 38,200 2,780 35,420 51,800 113,470 181,450 34,330 147,120 385,000	No.* Rate** 38,200 55.1 2,780 13.7 35,420 72.4 51,800 112.2 113,470 237.0 181,450 1,095.9 34,330 545.0 147,120 1,434.1	No.* Rate** % 38,200 55.1 9.9 2,780 13.7 0.7 35,420 72.4 9.2 51,800 112.2 13.5 113,470 237.0 29.5 181,450 1,095.9 47.1 34,330 545.0 8.9 147,120 1,434.1 38.2	No.* Rate** % No.* 38,200 55.1 9.9 38,860 2,780 13.7 0.7 2,630 35,420 72.4 9.2 36,230 51,800 112.2 13.5 54,040 113,470 237.0 29.5 117,890 181,450 1,095.9 47.1 188,510 34,330 545.0 8.9 35,670 147,120 1,434.1 38.2 152,840	No.* Rate** % No.* Rate** 38,200 55.1 9.9 38,860 54.1 2,780 13.7 0.7 2,630 12.5 35,420 72.4 9.2 36,230 71.4 51,800 112.2 13.5 54,040 112.7 113,470 237.0 29.5 117,890 237.5 181,450 1,095.9 47.1 188,510 1,098.1 34,330 545.0 8.9 35,670 546.2 147,120 1,434.1 38.2 152,840 1,437.0

^{*}For estimation procedure, see Appendix A.

Prevalence

The estimates given in Table 8 show that most blind persons today are in the older age groups. Nearly one-half of the legally blind population is 65 years of age or older. For 1962 this amounts to an estimated 188,510 persons cut of a total of 399,300.

^{**}Per 100,000 population. For population figures, see Appendix B.

^{*}For estimation procedure, see Appendix A.

ISPB Factbock; Estimated Statistics on Blindness and Vision Problems. New York, National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, 1966.

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APPENDIX 3

S IC.			APPENDIX	m		0.1.					
Provisional Preval Realth Interviews,	1 Prevalence 1/of erviews, by Age:	f Selected United Su		frmenta Civilia	Impairments and Chronic Condity ates Civilian Noninstitutional	O. L.S. ale Con Eftutio	ditions nal Pop	Conditions Reported	. 4m	CSF COPY AVAIL	
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Condition	_	A11	Under	77-71	73-87	747		Under		į	
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Other Visual impairments .	x01-x03,	1306 8291	594	91	2354	909 3049	0.0	* 6	1.6		7.0
•	. x05		•				•	<u> </u>	4 . 3		0.07
scaring Impainments 2/	60x-90x	16491	863	3167	4765	5695	7.2	1.3	- 7-	11.4	29.4
recch Impatrment	X10,X11 ·	1934	995	505	. 268	165	1.0	1. 2.	0.7	. 9.0	6.0
hsunce of major extremities	X20- X24,		•		•						
	X26-X30, X32,X32	274	*	61	127	77	0	*	0.1	. 6.0	0.4
bsence of entire finger(s) or										//	
	X25,X31, X34	858	*	251	336	236	4.0	*	. 6.0	. 80	6
aralysis, Complete or Partial	X40-X69	1392	158	342	446	. 777	7 0	0	r C	· •) r
Teraplegia	X44, X46	702	*	*	*		0.1		*	•	٠. ۲.
Quidriplegfa	X4 / X48	2.52 2.51	* *	* *	* *	oo *	1.0	* 1	* 4	0.2	0.5
Cerebral palsy	X50	181	. 06	29	*			1.0	0.1	< *	* *
nputiments, (except paralysis) of back or spine	X70-X72, X80,X81	8018	210	3662	2847	1298	7.0	6	. 6.7	. &	. 7
		,	•	.:							
		;	•		•		•				•
	•		, es	•		•			*****		•
						*	•				
	_				-	Paris de la compansión de	_		-	~~~	

these prevalence estimates were reported in health interviews in response to a selected list of chronic conditions Chronic conditions reported in interviews may be described as those of which the respond: Because of these qualifications, the prevalence viscal and heaving impairments that the probe questions have been changed to increase reporting of less serious impairment. Caronic conditions reported in health interviews are subject to special limitations inherent in data medical records or clinical examination. Several studies have been conducted comparing the reporting of chronic dependent on the information the attending physician has passed on to the family or in the absence of medical Compensating some of the underreporting of conditions are overreports of conditions not found in medical records of a result The check list of conditions is presented in Appendix III of the "Gurrent misinterpretation due to conflicting data derived from different sources, please use the qualifying stattament "reported in health interviews" in describing the prevalence estimates for any of these chronic conditions. ls aware, and is willing to report to the interviewer. The diagnostic accuracy of reported conditions is estimates produced from interview data will, for some conditions, differ markedly from estimates based on of salf-diagnosts or undercounting of the corditions in the modical records. To avoid the possibility of One erries Regenance Compared with Modical Records and Interview Data on Chronic Conditions Compared will copditions in household interviews with medical records to determine the amount of underreporting. formation Ferived from Medical Records, Vital and Health Statistics, Series 2, Nos. 7 and 23). affecting the respiratory system. The check list of conditions is presented i Estimates" report for 1971 (Vital and Health Statistica, Series 10, No. 75).

Increase in prevalence primarily dus to revised probe questions.

a special supplementary code for impairments, this code is used to group impairments by type of functional, Adapted for Use in the United States as modified further for use in a health interview survey; or by Conditions reported in interviews are either coded according to the <u>International Classification of</u> impairment and etiology. A list of the impairment codes and etiology codes is presented i

Table 1. Average prevalence and percent distribution of visual impairments, by age according to sex: United States, July 1963-June 1965

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the esticates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

	All vis	ual impai	rments	Severe v	risual imp	airments	Other v	sual impa	irments
Sex and age	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation
Both sexes						•			
All ages	5,390	100.0	78.8	1,227	100.0	6.6	4,163	100.0	22.2
Under 25 years	648 744 1,499 1,126 1,373	12.0 13.8 27.8 20.9 25.5	7.5 16.4 39.6 100.9 228.8	53 66 259 263 585	4.3 5.4 21.1 21.4 47.7	0.6 1.5 6.8 23.6 97.5	595 678 1,240 863 788	14.3 16.3 29.8 20.7 18.9	6.9 15.0 32.7 77.4 131.3
Male All ages	2,391	100.0	26.4	156					
Under 25 years	340 377 711 465 498	14.2 15.8 29.7 19.4 20.8	7.9 17.4 38.9 92.4 195.7	# # 109 105 198	100.0 * * 23.5 22.6 42.7	5.1 * * 6.0 20.9 77.8	312 353 601 360 300	100.0 16.2 18.3 31.2 18.7 15.6	7.2 16.3 32.9 71.5 117.9
Female All ages	2,999	100.0	31.1	763	100.0	7.9	2,236	100.0	23.2
Under 25 years	308 367 788 661 8 7 5	10.3 12.2 26.3 22.0 29.2	7.1 15.5 40.2 107.9 253.0	43 150 159 388	5.6 19.7 20.8 50.9	1.8 7.6 26.0 112.2	283 324 639 502 487	12.7 14.5 28.6 22.5 21.8	6.5 13.7 32.6 82.0 140.8

Table 2. Average prevalence and percent distribution of visual impairments, by age according to color: United States, July 1:63-June 1965

[See headnote on table 1] Severe visual impairments All visual impairments Other visual impairments Average Rate Average Rate Average unmper Percent per 1,000 Color and age unmper Percent per 1,000 number per 1,000 Percent in distriin distriin distrithoubution popu-lation popu-lation thoubution thoubution popu-lation rands sands sands Total All ages-----5,390 100.0 28.8 1,227 100.0 4,163 6.6 100.0 22,2 Under 65 years-----2,891 2,499 53.6 378 849 30.8 69.2 2.2 49.5 2,513 1,650 60.4 39.6 14.8 96.2 65 years and over-----46.4 145.6 White All ages----100.0 4,684 28.4 1,019 100.0 6.2 3,665 100.0 22.2 Under 65 years----2,425 2,259 51.8 16.3 279 740 27.4 72.6 2,146 1,519 1.9 58.6 41.4 14.4 96.0 65 years and over-----48.2 142.8 Nonwhite All ages-----706 100.0 32.0 207 100.0 9.4 198 100.0 22.6 Under 65 years----466 66.0 47.3 52.7 98 4.7 81.6 17.7 98.1 367 73.7 65 years and over-----239 33.9 179.0 109

U.S. National Center for Health Statistics. Frevalence of selected impairments United States, July 1963—June 1965

Table 5. Average prevalence and percent distribution of visual impairments, by age according to geographic region: United States, July 1963-June 1965

[Data are based on household interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

		ie estimates -							
	All vis	ual impai:	rments	Severe v	isual imp	airments	Other vi	sual impa	irments
Region and age	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation	Average number in thou-sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation
All regions									
All ages	5,390	100.0	28.8	1,227	100.0	6.6	4,163	100.0	22.2
Under 65 years	2,891	53.6	17.0	378	30.8	2.2	2,513	60.4	14.8
65+ years	2,499	46.4	145.6	849	69.2	49.5	1,650	39.6	96.2
Northeast									
All ages	1,022	100.0	21.9	222	100.0	4.8	800	100.0	17.2
Under 65 years	521	51.0	12.4	63	28.4	1.5	459	. 57.4	10.9
65+ years	501	49.0	111.6	160	72.1	35.7	341	42.6	76.0
North Central									
All ages	1,377	100.0	25.8	311	100.0	5.8	1,066	100.0	20.0
Under 65 years	686	49.8	14.2	82	26.4	1.7	604	56.7	12.5
65+ years	691	50.2	134.1	229	73.6	44.5	462	43.3	89.7
South									
All ages	2,204	100.0	38.7	539	100.0	9.5	1,665	100.0	29.2
Under 65 years	1,254	56.9	24.1	190	35.3	3.6	1,064	63.9	20.4
65+ years	950	43.1	193.8	349	64.7	71.2	601	36.1	122.6
West									
All ages	786	100.0	26.0	154	100.0	5.1	632	100.0	20.9
Under 65 years	430	54.7	15.6	44	23.6	1.6	386	61.1	1
65+ years	357	45.4	136.4	110	71.4	42.0	246	38.9	94.0

01:

Table 6. Average prevalence and percent distribution of visual impairments, by family to ome according to age: United States, July 1963-June 1965

[Data are based on bousehold interviews of the civilian, noninstitutional population. The survey design, general qualifications, and in interviews on the reliability of the estimates are given in Appendix I. Definitions of terms are given in Appendix II]

				The representation 1.	Deminions o	u terms are gr	ven in Append	lix II j	
	All vi	sual impa	irments	Severe	visua) im	pairments	Other v	isual imp	wirnents
Age and family income	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	
All ages									
All incomes ¹ -	5,390	100.0	28.8	1,227	100.0	6.6	4,163	100.0	22.2
Under \$3,000	2,477	46.0	71.2	744	60.6	21.4	1,732	41.6	
\$3,000-\$3,999	516	9.6	32.4	109	8.9	6.8	407	11.7	1
\$4,000-\$6,999	1,083	20.1	18.8	169	13.8	2.9	914	22.0	
\$7,000-\$9,999	541	10.0	14.3	64	5.2	1.7	477	11.5	12.6
\$10,000+	475	8.8	15.2	52	4.2	1.7	422	10.1	13.5
Under 65 years									
All incomes! -	2,891	100.0	17.0	378	100.0	2.2	2,513	100.0	14.8
Under \$3,000	967	33.4	36.8	206	54.5	7.8	761	30.3	
\$3,000-\$3,999	280	9.7	20.0	37	9.8	2.6	242	9.6	28.9
\$4,000-\$6,999	767	26.5	14.0	70	18.5	1.3	697		17.3
\$7,000-\$9,999	401	13.9	11.0	*	*	*	376	27.7	12.7
\$10,000+	339	11.7	11.3	*	*	*	321	15.0 12.8	10.3
65+ years									2000
All incomes! -	2,499	100.0	145.6	849	100.0	49.5	1,650	100.0	96.2
Under \$3,000	1,509	60.4	177.5	538	63.4	63.3			
\$3,000-\$3,999	236	9.4	123.8	72	8.5	37.8	971	58.8	114.2
\$4,000-\$6,999	316	12.6	109.8	99	11.7	34.4	164	9.9	86.0
\$7,000-\$9,999	141	5.6	110.1	39	4.6	30.4	216	13.1	75.0
\$10,000+	136	5.4	105.7	35	4.1	27.2	101	6.1	78.8
		<u> </u>				-/	101	6.1	78.5

Includes persons with unknown incomes.

Table 7. Average prevalence and percent distribution of visual impairments, by degree of limitation of activity according to sex: United States, July 1963-June 1965

Take are bread on howsehold interviews of the civilian, noninativational torrelation. The survey design, poweral qualifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Armondia 1. Definitions of three are given in Appendix II]

	All vis	ual impai	rments	Severe v	isual impe	airments	Other vi	sual impa	irments
Sex and degree of limitation of activity	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- lation
Both sexes		·							
Total	5,390	100.0	28.8	1,227	100.0	6.6	4,163	100.0	22.2
With limitation of activity-	1,285	23.8	6.9	658	53.6	3.5	627	15.1	3.4
Unable to carry on major activity!	483	9.0	2.6	339	27.6	1.8	144	3.5	0.8
Limitation in amount or kind of major activity!	618	11.5	3.3	261	21.3	1,4	357	8,6	1.9
Limitation, but not in major activity!	184	3.4	1.0	58	4.7	0.3	126	3.0	0.7
With no limitation of activity	4,105	76.2	21.9	569	46.4	3.0	3,536	84.9	18.9
Male									
Total	2,391	100.0	26.4	464	100.0	5.1	1,927	100.0	21,2
With limitation of activity-	611	25.6	6.7	271	58.4	3.0	341	17.7	3.8
Unable to carry on major activity	279	11.7	3.1	175	37.7	1.9	104	5.4	1.1
Limitation in amount or kind of major activity!	262	11.0	2.9	85	18.3	0.9	176	9.1	1.9
Limitation, but not in major activity	71	3.0	0.8	*	*	*	61	3.2	0.7
With no limitation of activity	1,780	74.4	19.6	193	41.6	2.1	1,586	82_3	17.5
Female									
Total	2,999	100.0	31.1	763	100.0	7.9	2,236	100.0	23.2
With limitation of activity-	674	22.5	7.0	388	50.9	4.0	286	12.8	3.0
Unable to carry on major activity!	204	6.8	2.1	164	21.5	1.7	40	1.8	0.4
Limitation in amount or kind of major activity! ++	357	11.9	3.7	176	23.1	1.8	180	8.1	1.9
Limitation, but not in major activity	113	3.8	1.2	48	6.3	0.5	66	3.0	0.7
With no limitation of activity	2,325	77.5	24.1	375	49.1	3.9	1,950	87.2	20.2

¹Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or engage in school or preschool activities.

Table 8. Average prevalence and percent distribution of visual impairments, by degree of limitation of activity according to age; United States, July 1963-June 1965

[Data are based on household interseas of the civilian, normaticulous population. The survey design, general musilifications, and information on the reliability of the estimates are given in Ary-outs 1. Definitions of sums are given in Appendix II]

	All vi	sual impa	irments	Severe	visual in	mpairments	Other v	isual imp	irment
Age and degree of limitation of activity	Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution		Average number in thou- sands	Percent distri- bution		Average number in thou-	Percent distri- bution	Rate per 1,000 popu- latio
All ages									
Total	5,390	100.0	28.8	1,227	100.0	6.6	4,163	100.0	22.
With limitation of activity Unallie to carry on major activity	1,285	23,8	6.9	658	53.6	3.5	627	15.1	3.
Limitation in amount or kind of	483	9.0	5	319	27.6	1.8	144	3.5	0.
Limitation, but not in mater	618	11.5	3.3	7 	21.3	1.4	357		1.9
activity	184	3.4	1.0	18	4.7	0.3	126	3	0.
With no limitation of activity	4,105	76.2	21.9	1.00	46.4	3.0	3,536	84.9	18.
Under 45 years					•	{ }		-	
Total	1,392	100.0	10.5	119	100.0		1,273	110	ņ
With limitation of activity Unable to carry on major activity!	190	13.6	1.4	61	51.3	6.5	130	2,2	- 2
Limitation in amount or kind of	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* ;	•
Limitation, but not in major activity	107	7.7	0.8	30	25.2	3.2	76	6.0	,• (
With no limitation of activity	58	4.2	0.4	*	*	•	48	3.	¢.4
	1,202	86.4	9.1	59	49.6	0.4	1,143	go,	8.7
45-64 years								1	
Total	1,499	100.0	39.6	259	100.0	6.8	1,240	100.0	32.7
With limitation of activity	301	20.1	7.9	128	49.4	3.4	173	14.0	
activity!	85	5,7	2.2	56	21.6	- 1	*/3		4.6
Limitation, but not in water	163	10.9	4.3	59	22.8	1.6	105	6.5	2.8
activity.	53	3.5	1.4	*		*	39	3.1	
ith no limitation of activity	1,198	79.9	31.6	131	50.6	3,5	1,067	86.0	1.0 28.2
65 years and over			7.7. E. S.		2 2				
Total	2,499	100.0	145.6	849	100.0	49.5	1,650		•
ith limitation of activity Unable to carry on major	794	31.8	46.3	469	55.2	27.3	325	19.7	96.2
Limitation in amount or bind of	373	14.9	21.7	263	31.0	15.3	110	6.7	6.4
Limitation, but not in major activity	348	13.9	20.3	172	20.3	10.0	176	10.7	10.3
ith no limitation of activity	73	2.9	4.3	34	4.0	2.0	39	2.4	2.3
	1,705	68.2	99.4	379	44.6	22.1	1,325	80.3	77.2

¹Major activity refers to ability to work, keep house, or engage in school or preschool activities.

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- failing in reading, spelling, writing or arithmetic but teacher insists he could do the work "if he'd only try"?
- poor in coordination? disoriented in space?
- easily distracted, impulsive or over-active?
- confused in his language or speech or fails to understand what you tell him?
- often anxious or angry, because he cannot cope with the requirements of school, or of social situations?
- usually forgetful, habitually inattentive?

Is your child - or a child you know - "often", "sometimes", "always", "usually" or "habitually" any combination of these?

These are the children with special learning disabilities on whose behalf the Association for Children with Learning Disabilities was established. The National Advisory Committee on Handicapped Children of the Office of Education in the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare recently suggested the following definition:

"Children with specific learning disabilities exhibit a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using spoken or written languages. These may be manifested in disorders of listening, thinking, talking, reading, writing, spelling or arithmetic. They include conditions which have been referred to as perceptual handicaps, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, developmental phasia, etc. They do not include learning problems which are due primarily to visual, hearing or motor handicaps, to mental retardation, emotional disturbance or to environmental disadvantage."

ACLD's position is that thousands of our school children are experiencing failure because of such special learning disabilities. Such a child is the "dunce" of yesterday. In this respect, "learning disability" is a newcomer among the handicaps classified as affecting children. It has become more and more

ACLD brochure, n.d.



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jects, and in stimulation grants to the States in the service areas. The total of \$31 million granted in these areas during the fiscal year 1963 was more than matched directly and indirectly by state, local and private funds.

Increasing interest has been shown since then by many of the Governors of the various States in improved planning and diversification of service, with participation by all major departments of State government, in collaboration with local government and with voluntary organizations.

What Was The President's Panel On Mental Retardation?

In October 1961, President Kennedy appointed 27 professional and civic leaders to make recommendations concerning the scope of the problem of mental retardation in the United States, the major areas of concern that offer the most hope, the resources that must be mobilized, and the relationships between the Federal Government, the States, and private resources in promoting prevention and amelioration. In response to this mandate the Panel presented a report to the President in October 1962, entitled "A Proposed Program for National Action to Combat Mental Retardation". (Copies are available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25. D. .C. at 65¢ per copy). The Report covers broadly the topics of research in scientific manpower, prevention, clinical and social services, education, vocational rehabilitation and training, recreation, residential care, planning and coordination, legal problems, and public attitudes.

What Is The President's Committee on Mental Retardation?

The President's Committee on Mental Retardation was appointed in May, 1966. The Secretary of Health, Education, and Weifare is chairman; members are the Secretary of Labor, the Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity and 21 distinguished then and women.

The Committee evaluates Federal mental retardation programs; coordinates the activities of Federal agencies in the mental retardation field; provides liaison between Federal activities and related activities of state and local governments, foundations, and other private organizations; disseminates information to the general public to reduce the incidence of mental retardation and ameliorate its effects.

For more information write directly to The President's Committee on Mental Retardation, Washington, D. C. 20201.

ESTIMATES OF RETARDA: ON BY AGE AND DEGREE-1970

1970 Census	All Ages	Under 21 Yrs.	21 Yrs. and above
General Population 3% General Population Retended	203.2 million 6.1 million	80.5 million 2.4 million	122.7 million 3.7 million
Profound (IQ - 20) About 1%%	92 thousand	36 thousand	56 thousand
Severe (IQ 20 - 35) About 3%%	214 thousand	84 thousand	130 thousand
Moderate (10.36 - 52 About 6%	366 thousand	144 thousand	222 thousand
Mild (IQ 53 +) About 89%	5.4 million +	2.1 million +	3.3 million +

National Association for Retarded Children. Facts on mental retardation (1971).

giving aid to the disabled, yet a substantial number even in this group may be sheltered by their families and passed over in surveys. (2)

5. For these reasons, less than 1/3 of the estimated six million mentally retarded people in this country are likely to be identified as needing any form of specialized height, education, or welfare service at any one time. (2)

III. IN WHAT GE GROU'S ARE MOST MENTALLY RETARDED TO BE

FU: 3.3?

1. A brookdown by age of the 6 million mentally retarded is as follows: (2)

From birth to five years of age	605,000
From six to sixteen years of age	1,354,000
From 16 to 21 years of age	691,000
Total under 21 years old	2,880,000
Total over 21 years old	3,100,000
· . (rounded figures)	6,000,000

2. Most mental retardation originates in the prenatal period or in early childhood. However, affected pre-school children are often not identified and reported. As children enter and proceed through school their difficulty in learning becomes more apparent, with the result that the numbers reported in each grade tend to increase with age until early adolescence. (2)

(Since many mentally retarded children leave school as soon as compulsory attendance laws permit them to do so, there is a corresponding decline in reported mental retardation in late adolescence. Some severely and profoundly retarded children who do not attend any schools may go unreported in those surveys which depend primarily on identification by health, education, or welfare agencies.) (2)

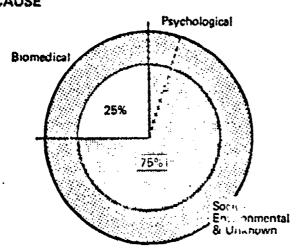
Developmental Characteristics of the Mentally Retarded

Degrees of Mental Retardation	Pre-School Age 0-5 Maturation and Development	School Age 6-20 Training and Education	Adult 21 and Over Social and Vocational Adequacy
Mild	Can develop social and communication skills; minimal retardation in sensorimotor areas; often not distinguished from normal until later age.	Can learn academic skills up to approximately sixth grade level by late teens. Can be guided toward social conformity. "Educable"	Can usually achieve social and vocational skills adequate to minimum self-support but may need guidance and assistance when under unusual social or economic stress.
Moderate	Can talk or learn to communicate; poor social awareness; fair motor development; profits from training in self-help; can be managed with moderate supervision.	Can profit from training in social and occupational skills; unlikely to progress beyond second grade level in academic subjects; may learn to travel alone in familiar places.	May achieve self-main- tenance in unskilled or semi-skilled work under sheltered conditions; needs supervision and guidance when under mile social or economic stress.
Severe	Poor motor development: speech is minimal; generally unable to profit from training in self-help; little or no communication skills.	Can talk or learn to communicate; can be trained in elemental health habits; profits from systematic habit training.	May contribute partially to self-maintenance under complete supervision; can develop self-protection skills to a minimal useful level in controlled environment.
Profound	Gross retardation; minimal capacity for functioning in sensorimotor areas; needs nursing care.	Some motor development present; may respond to minimal or limited training in self-help.	Some motor and speech development; may achieve very limited self-care; needs nursing care.

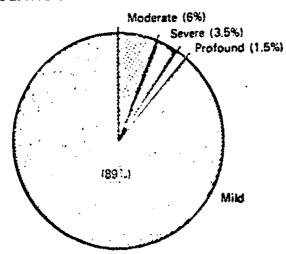
U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Office of Mental Retardation Coordination. The problem of mental retardation. (1972)



MENTAL RETARDATION BY CAUSE



CLASSIFICATION OF THE MENTALLY RETARDED POPULATION



Contents

TOWARD A LIFE OF QUALITY	Page
Education for Parenthood	7
The Mother is Just a Child	8
From Chromosomes to Family Care	11
Nurse-Midwives Show the Way	15
Home Is Where the Teaching Is	18
EASING THE BURDEN	
Retarded People Have Rights, Toc	22
The Multi-handicapped Child	26
Texas Removes the Label	31
INTO THE COMMUNITY	
The Open Institution	37
There Are Choices	42
Making It on Their Own	46
Building a Model for the Nation	47
PCMR'S ACTIVITIES	49
RECOMMENDATIONS	53

The President's Committee on Mental Retardation Washington, D.C. 20201

DEW Publication No. (OS) 73-7

Report of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation, 1972.

TABLE 2.- Selected demographic characteristics of severely disabled adults aged 18-64, by institutional status, 1966-67

	Number (in thousands)							
Characteristic		Nonin- stitu- tional- ized	Institutionalized					
	Total		Total	Psychi- atric hospital or ward	Institu- tions for mentally retarded	Other long-term care		
Total	6,560	6,100	460	299	107	54		
Sex								
Men	2,565 3,995	2,300 3,800	265 195	171	57 50	37 17		
Age 18-24	328 508 1,200 1,635 2,889 1,284 1,605 687 918	274 432 1,104 1,516 2,774 1,225 1,549 665 884	54 76 96 119 115 59 56 22 34	14 40 66 90 90 45 44 17 28	31 29 20 16 10 6. 4 2	8 7 10 12 16 8 8 3 5		
WhiteOther than white Marital status	5,227 1,331	4,848 1,251	379 80	238 61	98 8	43 10		
Married Widowed Divorced Separated Never married Not reported	3,883 746 402 342 1,173	3,799 725 367 318 890	84 21 35 24 283 13	66 16 28 20 160 9	1 1 (*) 102 2	18 4 6 4 21 2		

See footnotes at end of table.

Social Security Survey of the Disabled: 1966. Report number14 (Movember 1970)

TABLE 2.--Selected demographic characteristics of severely disabled adults aged 18-64, by institutional status, 1966-67--Continued

Characteristic	Percentage distribution							
	Total	Nonin- stitu- tional- ized	Institutionalized					
			Total	Psychi- atric hospital or ward	Institu- tions for mentally retarded	Other long-term care		
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		
<u>Sex</u>								
Men	39.1 60.9	37.7 62.3	57.6 42.4	57.2 42.8	53.3 46.7	68.5 31.5		
18-24. 25-34. 35-44. 45-54. 55-64. 55-59. 60-64. 60-61. 62-64. Race	5.0 7.7 18.3 24.9 44.0 19.6 24.4 10.5 13.9	4.5 7.1 18.1 24.9 45.5 20.1 25.4 10.9 14.5	11.7 16.5 20.9 25.9 25.0 12.8 12.2 4.8 7.4	4.7 13.4 22.1 30.1 30.1 15.1 15.0 5.7 9.3	29.0 27.1 18.7 15.0 9.3 5.6 3.7 1.9	14.8 13.0 18.5 22.2 29.6 14.8 14.8 5.6 9.2		
WhiteOther than white Marital status	79.7 20.3	79.5 20.5	82.4 17.6	79.6 20.4	91.6 8.4	79.6 20.4		
Married. Widowed. Divorced. Separated. Never married. Not reported.	59.2 11.4 6.1 5.2 17.9	62.3 11.9 6.0 5.2 14.6	18.3 4.6 7.6 5.2 61.5 2.8	22.1 5.4 9.3 6.7 53.5 3.0	.9 .9 .9 (**) 95.5	33.3 7.4 11.1 7.4 38.8 3.7		

Less than 500 persons.

^{**} Less than 0.05 percent.

TABLE 3.--Age at onset of disability by diagnostic condition and functional limitation: Percentage distribution of disabled and severely disabled noninstitutionalized adults aged 13-64, spring 1966--Continued

Diagnostic condition and functional	Total	Age at onset of disability				
limitation by severity of disability	Total	Under 18	18-34	35-54	55-64	
SEVERELY DISABLED						
COLDINAL DISABLED	ļ	1	İ			
Number (in thousands)	6,100	848	1,406	2,840	- 95	
Diagnostic group and conditions						
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Musculoskeletal disorders	25.2	13.1	30.2	28.8	17.4	
Arthritis or rheumatism	12.3	1.8	12.3	15.7	11.0	
Back or spine. Impairment of limbs.	6.9	3.9	8.8	7.9	3.7	
Cardiovascular disorders.		5.4	~ 3.6	3.3	1.2	
Heart trouble	25.8	11.8	14.5	29.2	43.7	
High blood pressure	11.3	2.6	6.7	13.3	23.1	
Respiratory and related disorders	1	.7	3.4	7.8	10.4	
ASTRIB	8.7 2.7	7.6	8.4	10.1	6.4	
mental disorders	9.9	5.3	1.9	2.7	1.8	
mental liness and nervous fromble	6.5	24.3	15.2	4.9	4.5	
Mental retardation.	2.7	18.6	14.3	4.4	2.6	
Nervous system disorders.	9.6	24.6	.2	.1	.1	
Epilepsy	1.6	9.4	6.2	8.1	6.1	
initible scierosis	.6	7	.9	.6	.1	
raraly31s	1.6	3.8	2.5	1.1	.2	
Digestive disorders.	5.5	.6	8.7	5.0	.1 6.7	
Neopiasms	2.7	1.1	2.6	3.1	3.1	
Urogenital conditions	2.8	2.1	3.5	2.3	2.3	
Diabetes	3.0	.9	1.5	3.2	6.3	
Visual impairments	2.5	3.0	3.6	1.8	2.3	
Other and unspecified conditions	4.3	11.1	5.6	2.8	1.2	
Functional limitations						
Total percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
No loss 1/	13.7	18.8	18.1	9.3	13.9	
ainor loss	25.1	16.7	27.0	26.9	25.0	
Moderate loss	19.4	9.9	17.9	21.2	24.5	
Severe loss	12.2	5.8	9.8	14.9	13.2	
Functionally dependent	29.6	47.7	27.2	27.7	23.6	

^{1/} No loss in capacities for physical activity, mobility, or self-care.

TABLE 7.--Age at onset of disability by race and demographic characteristics: Percentage distribution of disabled and severely disabled noninstitutionalized adults aged 18-64, spring 1966

Selected characteristics	Number (in	Percentage distribution by age at onset of disability					Median age at
	thou- sands)	Total	Under 18	18-34	35-54	55-64	onset of dis- ability
DISABLED							
Total	17,753	100.0	15.3	27.9	42.7	11.4	3
. Race							
White	15,046 2,707	100.0	15.9 12.0	27.9 28.1	. 41.7 48.5	11.6 19.3	3
Region	-					-1-	
Northeast	3,685 4,524 6,760 2,783	100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0	16.5 17.2 13.4 14.9	29.4 28.9 24.9 31.8	39.3 39.1 47.5 41.4	10.4 12.8 12.0 9.2	3(3) 3) 3)
Community size			İ				
Rural	4,160 7,525 5,359 611	100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0	13.8 14.6 17.6 13.6	27.4 28.0 27.9 26.8	45.3 42.1 41.9 44.2	10.9 12.5 10.2 12.6	38 38 39 39
SEVERELY DISABLED							
Total	6,100	100.0	13.9	23.0	46.6	15.6	40
Rece							
hite onwhite	4,848 1,251	100.0	14.9	22.4 25.4	45.3 51.3	16.2 13.2	40 41
Region		į				1	
ortheast	1,139 1,435 2,584 942	100.0 100.0 100.0	15.2 15.7 13.0 12.0	24.0 22.6 22.4 24.3	42.0 44.7 48.7 49.0	17.4 16.0 15.1 14.2	40 40 41 40
Community size							
ural rban Lty iburb	1,436 2,383 2,055 180	100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0	15.9 12.8 13.2 16.7	22.6 21.7 24.5 22.2	46.2 47.2 47.1 43.9	14.0 17.8 14.2 14.4	40 41 40 39

Social Security Survey of the Disabled: 1966. Report number 18. (June 1972)